CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application claims the benefit of priority from U.S. Application No. 60/168,976, filed December 3, 1999, now abandoned, and U.S. Application No. 60/137,900, filed June 7, 1999, now abandoned. All prior applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

On page 8, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

An "antibody," as used herein, includes both polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies; Primatized™ (*i.e.* macaque V region fused to human constant domain; Newman *et al.*. 1992. *Bio/Technology 10:1455*); humanized; murine; mouse-human; mouse-primate; and chimeric; and may be an intact molecule, a fragment thereof (such as scFv, Fv, Fd, Fab, Fab' and $F(ab)'_2$ fragments), or multimers or aggregates of intact molecules and/or fragments; and may occur in nature or be produced, *e.g.*, by immunization, synthesis or genetic engineering; an "antibody fragment," as used herein, refers to fragments, derived from or related to an antibody, which bind antigen and which in some embodiments may be derivatized to exhibit structural features that facilitate clearance and uptake, *e.g.*, by the incorporation of galactose residues. This includes, *e.g.*, F(ab), $F(ab)'_2$, scFv, light chain variable region (V_L), heavy chain variable region (V_H), and combinations thereof.

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-17, 40-64, and 66, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 18, 21-24, 26, 32, 33, 34, 38, and 39 to read as follows:

18. (Amended) A fusion protein, comprising at least a first and a second polypeptide joined end to end, wherein said first polypeptide comprises at least 129 amino acids of streptavidin, as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, or functional variants, said variants comprising at least 90% amino acid identity with the native sequence thereof, wherein said variants retain the ability to bind biotin, and wherein said second polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence differing by at least one residue from said first polypeptide.